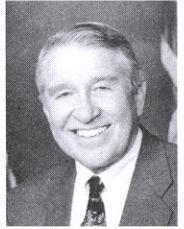




NEWS FROM
Jack Scott

21st SENATE DISTRICT



For Immediate Release
August 31, 2001

Contact: Alison Merrilees
916-445-5976

**HANDGUN SAFETY TRAINING BILL PASSES ASSEMBLY
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

Senator Scott's SB 52 moves to Assembly Floor

SACRAMENTO -- Senator Jack Scott (D-Pasadena) announced today that SB 52, his landmark handgun safety training bill, was approved by the Assembly Appropriations Committee by a 12-8 vote. SB 52 requires handgun purchasers to obtain a handgun safety certificate before buying a handgun.

In order to obtain a handgun safety certificate under SB 52, applicants will have to pass a written test regarding firearms laws and safety rules. At the store where they purchase their gun, buyers will have to give a thumbprint, provide identification and proof of residency, and pass a background check. Then, when they pick up their handgun, purchasers will have to demonstrate to a safety instructor that they understand and know how to operate the gun.

"SB 52 is a simple bill based upon a simple premise. Handgun buyers should know how to use guns before bringing them into their homes and communities," said Senator Scott. "We expect drivers to know how to operate cars," he said. "Shouldn't we expect the same from handgun buyers who are obtaining deadly weapons?"

Current gun owners would only have to obtain a certificate if they wish to buy additional handguns. The handgun safety certificate would cost \$45 and be valid for five years.

SB 52 next goes to the Assembly Floor.

#####

